

Claims

- 1 A method of treating a patient suffering from neuropathy which comprises
treating said patient with an effective amount of a cGMP PDE5 inhibitor, with
5 the proviso that the inhibitor is not a:
- i) substituted 5-(3-pyridyl)pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one,
 - ii) substituted 2-(3-pyridyl)-4a,5-dihydroimidazo[5,1-f][1,2,4]triazin-4(3H)-
one, or
 - 10 iii) substituted 2-phenylpurin-6-one or a substituted 2-(3-pyridyl)purin-6-
one,
- for treating peripheral diabetic neuropathy.
- 2 A method according to claim 1 wherein the neuropathy is diabetic
polyneuropathy.
- 15 3 A method according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the inhibitor is administered orally
- 4 A method according to claim 3 wherein the daily dosage is 5 to 500 mg.
- 20 5 A method according to any preceding claim wherein the inhibitor has an IC50
at less than 100 nanomolar.
- 6 A method according to any preceding claim wherein the inhibitor has a
selectivity ratio in excess of 1000.
- 25 7 A method according to any preceding claim wherein the inhibitor is sildenafil, or
pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
- 8 A method according to claim 7 wherein the daily dosage is 10 to 100 mg.
- 30 9 The use of a cGMP-PDE5 inhibitor for the manufacture of a medicament for
the treatment of neuropathy, with the proviso that the inhibitor is not a:
- i) substituted 5-(3-pyridyl)pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one,
 - ii) substituted 2-(3-pyridyl)-4a,5-dihydroimidazo[5,1-f][1,2,4]triazin-4(3H)-
one, or
 - 35 iii) substituted 2-phenylpurin-6-on or a substitut d 2-(3-pyridyl)purin-6-
one,

for treating peripheral diabetic neuropathy.

- 10 Th use according to claim 9 wherein the neuropathy is diabetic
polyneuropathy.
- 5 11 The use according to claim 9 or 10 wherein the inhibitor is administered orally.
- 12 The use according to claim 11 wherein the daily dosage is 5 to 500 mg.
- 10 13 The use according to any one of claims 9 to 12 wherein the inhibitor has an
IC50 at less than 100 nanomolar..
- 14 The use according to any one of claims 9 to 13 wherein the inhibitor has a
selectivity ratio in excess of 1000.
- 15 15 The use according to any one of claims 9 to 14 wherein the inhibitor is
sildenafil, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
- 16 The use according to claim 15 wherein the daily dosage is 10 to 100 mg.